IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1. (previously presented) A message processing apparatus, comprising:

an acquisition unit transmitting a job completion message and receiving a job completion reply from persons in a group who have been assigned part of a job and obtaining information indicating whether each of a plurality of receivers of a message, who in a group do a job associated with the message, has completed an assigned part of the job; and

a control unit, based on the information obtained by the acquisition unit, causing a terminal apparatus to display information indicating a ratio of persons who have received the message and completed the assigned parts of the job to all the persons who have received the message and have been assigned the parts of the job.

2. (previously presented) The message processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the control unit causes the information indicating the ratio of the persons who have completed respectively assigned parts of the job to be displayed together with a title of the message in response to one of a display request of a user and on fulfilling predetermined conditions.

3. (previously presented) The message processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the control unit causes the terminal apparatus to display a completion state table comprising information indicating the ratio of the persons who have completed the respectively assigned parts of the job among all the plurality of receivers of the message doing the job and the title of the message.

4. (previously presented) The message processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a message generation unit generating a message provided with a confirmation button by which each receiver of the message can individually inform that the receiver has completed the assigned part of the job to the transmitter of the message; and

wherein the control unit judges when the confirmation button is activated by a receiver of the message that the receiver has completed the assigned part of the job and counts the number of receivers who have activated the confirmation button for causing the terminal apparatus to display the information indicating the ratio of the persons having completed the assigned parts of the job.

5. (previously presented) The message processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein:

the message comprises a task completion date;

the message generation unit generates a message to which attached is an entry space for entering a completion date offer indicating a completion date each receiver desires to agree to in place of the completion date in the message; and

the control unit causes a terminal device of the transmitter apparatus at the transmitter of the message to display the completion date offer that is entered in the entry space.

6. (previously presented) The message processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the control unit causes the terminal apparatus at the transmitter of the message or at the receiver of the message to mandatory display the information indicating the ratio of the persons who have completed the respectively assigned parts of the job among all the plurality of receivers of the message doing the job that is associated with the message.

7. (previously presented) The message processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the control unit causes the terminal apparatus to display the information indicating the ratio of the persons who have completed the assigned parts of the job when one of a specified date for completing is a current and when the ratio of the persons who have completed the assigned parts of job reaches a preassigned value.

8. (previously presented) The message processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the control unit causes the terminal apparatus to display the information indicating the ratio of the persons who have completed the assigned parts of the job on a day specified by a transmitter of the message in advance.

9. (previously presented) A message processing apparatus, comprising:

an acquisition unit obtaining information indicating whether each of a plurality of receivers

of a message, who in a group do a job associated with the message, has completed an assigned part of the job,

a storage unit storing information identifying a message and information indicating a name of a transmitter of the message, a name of a receiver who has completed the assigned part of the job in a mutually associated manner; and

a control unit causes a terminal apparatus display information indicating a ratio of persons who have completed respectively assigned parts of a job associated with the message among a plurality of receivers of the message.

10. (previously presented) The message processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control unit causes the terminal apparatus to display an event announcement table containing information relating to a plurality of events.

11. (currently amended) The message processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control unit generates an event announcement table according to schedules associated with a plurality of received messages, and announces contents of a receiver by instructing a terminal apparatus of the receiver to display the event announcement table.

12. (previously presented) The message processing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said control unit stores event information, for each of a plurality of events that take pace in a manner distributed in a multiplayer timeline chart, describing about details of each event, time-schedule of each event and participating persons in each event in a mutually associated manner, and generates a plurality of events based on the event information, for displaying the event announcement table when a message is generated.

13. (previously presented) The message processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a message generation unit attaching an indicator to a confidential message indicating a need of limiting transfer of the confidential message, wherein said control unit limits transfer of the confidential message to which the indicator is attached.

14. (previously presented) The message processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a message generation unit capable of generating a message to which attached is a condition for deleting the message, so that the message which the condition for deleting the message is attached can be deleted automatically based on one of a certain period

after the message being generated and in accordance to the attached condition by an independent act of a transmitter or a receiver of the message.

15. (previously presented) A message processing system constituted from a plurality of terminal apparatuses each having a capability of displaying a message and a message processing apparatus capable of processing the message, wherein the message processing system comprises:

an acquisition unit obtaining information indicating whether each of a plurality of receivers of the message, who in a group do a job associated with the message, has completed an assigned part of the job, and

a control unit, based on the information obtained by the acquisition unit, causing the terminal apparatuses to display information indicating a ratio of persons who have completed the respectively assigned parts of the job among all the plurality of receivers of the message doing the job that is associated with the message.

16. (previously presented) The message processing system according to claim 15, wherein the control unit causes the terminal apparatus to display a completion state table comprising information indicating the ratio of the persons who have completed the respectively assigned parts of the job among all the plurality of receivers of the message doing the job and the title of the message .

17. (previously presented) A method of managing messages, comprising:

obtaining information indicating whether each of a plurality of receivers of a message, who in a group do a job associated with the message, has completed an assigned part of the job; and

based on the obtained information, causing a terminal apparatus to display information indicating a ratio of persons who have completed the respectively assigned parts of the job among all the plurality of receivers of the message doing the job that is associated with the message.

18. (previously presented) The method of managing messages according to claim 17, further comprises causing the information indicating the ratio of the persons who have completed respectively assigned parts of the job to be displayed together with a title of the message in response to a display request of a user or on fulfilling conditions arranged in

advance.

19. (previously presented) The method of managing messages according to claim 17, wherein further comprises causing the terminal apparatus to display a completion state table comprising information indicating the ratio of the persons who have completed the respectively assigned parts of the job among all the plurality of receivers of the message doing the job and the title of the message.

20. (previously presented) The method of managing messages according to claim 17, further comprising

generating a message to which attached is a confirmation button by which each receiver of the message can individually inform that the receiver has completed the assigned part of the job to the transmitter of the message; and,

judging when the confirmation button is activated by a receiver of the message that the receiver has completed the assigned part of the job and counts the number of receivers who have activated the confirmation button for causing the terminal apparatus to display the information indicating the ratio of the persons having completed the assigned parts of the job.

21. (previously presented) A computer-readable storage medium for controlling a computer and storing a message management program comprising:

a first program part for obtaining information indicating whether each of a plurality of receivers of a message, who in a group do a job associated with the message, has completed an assigned part of the job; and

a second program part, based on the obtained information, for causing a terminal apparatus to display information indicating a ratio of persons who have completed the respectively assigned parts of the job among all the plurality of receivers of the message doing the job that is associated with the message.

22. (previously presented) A message processing apparatus, comprising:

a message generation unit generating a message to which attached is an entry space for entering a completion date offer indicating a completion date each receiver desires to agree in place of the completion date stated in the message; and

a control unit causing a terminal apparatus to display in a table form the title of the message, names a plurality of the receivers, the completion dates entered into the entry spaces

attached to the message by the plurality of the receivers respectively and a ratio indicating a number of receivers who have completed the parts of the job.

23. (previously presented) The message processing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the control unit causes the terminal apparatus to display in a table form information including a ratio of persons who have completed the respectively assigned parts of the job among all the plurality of receivers of the message doing the job that is associated with the message.

24. (previously presented) A method, comprising;

transmitting a message to individuals of a group concerning parts of a job assigned to the individuals;

obtaining reply information concerning job part completion; and

displaying a ratio indicating a number of individuals of the group who have completed the parts of the job.

25. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 24, wherein the ratio indicates a number of individuals who have opened the message.

26. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 24, wherein the ratio indicates a number of individuals who have completed a job part task.

27. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 24, wherein the ratio indicates a number of individuals for whom a job part task period has expired.

28. (previously presented) A method comprising:

obtaining the information concerning job part completion from individuals of a group working on job parts; and

determining a ratio indicating a number of individuals of the group who have completed the parts of the job.